

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/028,378

Examiner

Paulos M. Natnael

Applicant(s)

MCGEE ET AL.

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to communication of 12/8/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/21/01; 4/8/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Paulos M. Natnael
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims **1-21** are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior fails to disclose the following combination of limitations in a method for use in processing a video signal, the method comprising the steps of: extracting histograms from a plurality of frames of the video signal; for each of at least a subset of the extracted histograms, comparing the extracted histogram to a family histogram, and if the extracted histogram falls within a specified range of the family histogram, updating the family histogram to include the extracted histogram as a new member, and if the extracted histogram does not fall within the specified range of the family histogram, indicating the family histogram as being complete and utilizing the extracted histogram to generate a new family histogram for use in processing subsequent extracted histograms; and utilizing one or more of the family histograms to detect a particular type of video content in the video signal, as in claim **1**;

An apparatus for use apparatus comprising: processing a video signal, the processor operative process histograms extracted from a plurality of frames of the video signal, the processor being adapted, for each of at least a subset of the extracted histograms, compare the extracted histogram to family histogram, and if the extracted histogram falls within a specified range of family histogram, to update the family histogram include extracted histogram as a new member, and if the extracted histogram

does not fall within the specified range of the family histogram, indicate the family histogram as being complete and to utilize the extracted histogram to generate a new family histogram for use in processing subsequent extracted histograms, one or more of the family histograms being utilizable to detect a particular type of video content in the video signal; and a memory coupled to the processor for storing at least a portion of one or more of the extracted histograms and the family histograms, as in claim **20**;

An article of manufacture comprising a machine-readable medium containing one or more software programs processing video signal, wherein one or more software programs when executed implement the steps of: extracting histograms from a plurality frames of the video signal; for each of at least subset of extracted histograms, comparing the extracted histogram family histogram, and if the extracted histogram falls within a specified range of the family histogram, updating the family histogram to include the extracted histogram new member, and the extracted histogram does not fall within the specified range of the family histogram, indicating the family histogram as being complete and utilizing the extracted histogram to generate a new family histogram for use in processing subsequent extracted histograms; and utilizing one or more of the family histograms to detect a particular type of video content in the video signal, as in claim **21**.

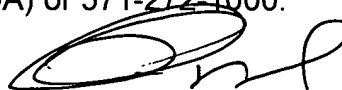
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paulos M. Natnael whose telephone number is (571) 272-7354. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am - 5:30pm M,W, F (7am-3:30pm T,Th).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571)272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Paulos M. Natnael
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622

PMN 
August 18, 2006